

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 2-4 and 6, amend claims 1 and 5, and add claims 7-22 as shown in the following listing of claims. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1 1. (currently amended) A method for creating and using grids on a computer
2 operating environment-a grid, said method comprising:
3 activating a grid feature of said computer operating environment to
4 create first and second grids-said grid;-and
5 displaying said first and second grids on said computer operating
6 environment as graphic objects in response to user input, each of said first and second
7 grids-said grid as a graphic object at a location on a display surface in response to
8 user input, said grid including a first plurality of parallel lines along a first direction
9 and at least one line along a second direction to intersect at least one of said parallel
10 lines, each of said first and second grids being configured to be modifiable with
11 respect to size, each of said first and second grids further being configured to be
12 movable on said computer operating environment; said grid being of a size defined by
13 said user input, said location of said grid being further defined by said user input
14 moving said first grid over a portion of said second grid in response to
15 additional user input of dragging said first grid; and
16 automatically snapping said first grid to said second grid when said
17 first grid is released to create a customized composite grid on said computer operating
18 environment.

1 2. (canceled).

1 3. (canceled).

1 4. (canceled).

1 5. (currently amended) A storage medium readable by a computer, tangibly
2 embodying a program of instructions executable by said computer to perform method
3 steps for creating and using grids on a computer operating environment-a grid, said
4 method steps comprising:
5 activating a grid feature of said computer operating environment to
6 create first and second grids-said grid; and
7 displaying said first and second grids on said computer operating
8 environment as graphic objects in response to user input, each of said first and second
9 grids-said grid as a graphic object at a location on a display surface in response to
10 user input, said grid including a first plurality of parallel lines along a first direction
11 and at least one line along a second direction to intersect at least one of said parallel
12 lines, each of said first and second grids being configured to be modifiable with
13 respect to size, each of said first and second grids further being configured to be
14 movable on said computer operating environment; said grid being of a size defined by
15 said user input, said location of said grid being further defined by said user input
16 moving said first grid over a portion of said second grid in response to
17 additional user input of dragging said first grid; and
18 automatically snapping said first grid to said second grid when said
19 first grid is released to create a customized composite grid on said computer operating
20 environment.

1 6. (canceled).

1 7. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein said displaying said first and second
2 grids includes drawing a diagonal line in response to said user input to create said
3 first grid on said computer operating environment, the dimensions of said first grid
4 being determined by the height and width of said diagonal line.

1 8. (new) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 displaying a menu with selections to change the horizontal spacing and
3 the vertical spacing of said first grid; and
4 graphically changing at least one of said horizontal spacing and said
5 vertical spacing of said first grid in response to user input without closing said menu.

1 9. (new) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
2 providing a graphic object on said computer operating environment,
3 said graphic object including a plurality of align points and a plurality of hot spots;
4 moving said graphic object over said customized composite grid in
5 response to user input of dragging said graphic object using a particular hot spot of
6 said graphic object; and
7 automatically snapping said graphic object to said customized
8 composite grid using a particular align point of said graphic object, said particular
9 align point being determined by said particular hot spot used to move said graphic
10 object.

1 10. (new) The method of claim 9 further comprising displaying a visual indicator
2 of said particular align point of said graphic object when said graphic object is moved
3 over said customized composite grid.

1 11. (new) The method of claim 10 wherein said displaying said visual indicator
2 includes displaying a circle around said particular align point of said graphic object.

1 12. (new) The method of claim 9 further comprising displaying a visual indicator
2 at a snap position on said customized composite grid when said graphic object is
3 moved over said customized composite grid, said snap position being a location on
4 said customized composite grid onto which said particular align point of said graphic
5 object will be snapped if said graphic object is released.

1 13. (new) The method of claim 12 wherein said displaying said visual indicator
2 includes displaying a thickened portion of said customized composite grid at said
3 snap position.

1 14. (new) The method of claim 9 wherein said moving said graphic object over
2 said customized composite grid includes moving said graphic object over said
3 customized composite grid without apparent jumps during the movement of said
4 graphic object over said customized composite grid.

1 15. (new) The storage medium of claim 5 wherein said displaying said first and
2 second grids includes drawing a diagonal line in response to said user input to create
3 said first grid on said computer operating environment, the dimensions of said first
4 grid being determined by the height and width of said diagonal line.

1 16. (new) The storage medium of claim 5 wherein said method steps further
2 comprises:
3 displaying a menu with selections to change the horizontal spacing and
4 the vertical spacing of said first grid; and
5 graphically changing at least one of said horizontal spacing and said
6 vertical spacing of said first grid in response to user input without closing said menu.

1 17. (new) The storage medium of claim 5 wherein said method steps further
2 comprises:

3 providing a graphic object on said computer operating environment,
4 said graphic object including a plurality of align points and a plurality of hot spots;
5 moving said graphic object over said customized composite grid in
6 response to user input of dragging said graphic object using a particular hot spot of
7 said graphic object; and
8 automatically snapping said graphic object to said customized
9 composite grid using a particular align point of said graphic object, said particular
10 align point being determined by said particular hot spot used to move said graphic
11 object.

1 18. (new) The storage medium of claim 17 wherein said method steps further
2 comprises displaying a visual indicator of said particular align point of said graphic
3 object when said graphic object is moved over said customized composite grid.

1 19. (new) The storage medium of claim 18 wherein said displaying said visual
2 indicator includes displaying a circle around said particular align point of said graphic
3 object.

1 20. (new) The storage medium of claim 17 wherein said method steps further
2 comprises displaying a visual indicator of a snap position on said customized
3 composite grid when said graphic object is moved over said customized composite
4 grid, said snap position being a location on said customized composite grid onto
5 which said particular align point of said graphic object will be snapped if said graphic
6 object is released.

1 21. (new) The storage medium of claim 20 wherein said displaying said visual
2 indicator includes displaying a thickened portion of said customized composite grid at
3 said snap position.

- 1 22. (new) The storage medium of claim 17 wherein said moving said graphic
- 2 object over said customized composite grid includes moving said graphic object over
- 3 said customized composite grid without apparent jumps during the movement of said
- 4 graphic object over said customized composite grid.